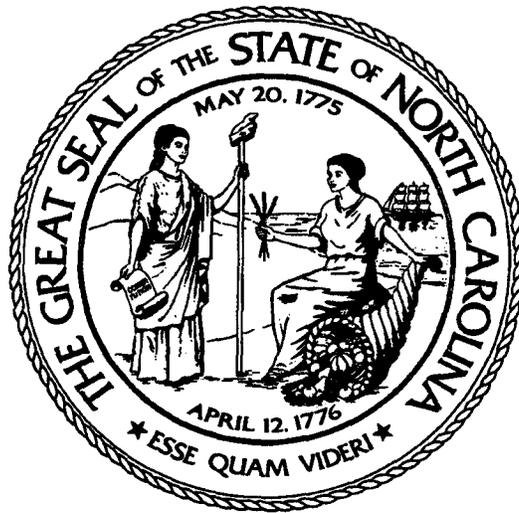


**LEGISLATIVE
RESEARCH COMMISSION**

WATER ISSUES



**REPORT TO THE
1995 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF NORTH CAROLINA**

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION
STATE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
RALEIGH 27611



January 11, 1995

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE 1995 GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The Legislative Research Commission herewith submits to you for your consideration its final report on water issues. The report was prepared by the Legislative Research Commission's Committee on Water Issues pursuant to G.S. 120-30.17(1).

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel T. Blue, Jr.
Speaker of the House

Marc Basnight
President Pro Tempore

Cochairmen
Legislative Research Commission



1993-1994

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION

MEMBERSHIP

**President Pro Tempore of
the Senate
Marc Basnight, Cochair**

**Senator Austin Allran
Senator Frank W. Ballance, Jr.
Senator R. L. Martin
Senator J. K. Sherron, Jr.
Senator Lura S. Tally**

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives
Daniel T. Blue, Jr., Cochair**

**Rep. Harold J. Brubaker
Rep. Marie W. Colton
Rep. W. Pete Cunningham
Rep. Bertha M. Holt
Rep. Vernon G. James**

PREFACE

The Legislative Research Commission, established by Article 6B of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes, is the general purpose study group in the Legislative Branch of State Government. The Commission is cochaired by the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and has five additional members appointed from each house of the General Assembly. Among the Commission's duties is that of making or causing to be made, upon the direction of the General Assembly, "such studies of and investigations into governmental agencies and institutions and matters of public policy as will aid the General Assembly in performing its duties in the most efficient and effective manner" (G.S. 120-30.17(1)).

The Legislative Research Commission, prompted by actions during the 1993 Session, has undertaken studies of numerous subjects. These studies were grouped into broad categories and each member of the Commission was given responsibility for one category of study. The Cochairs of the Legislative Research Commission, under the authority of G.S. 120-30.10(b) and (c), appointed committees consisting of members of the General Assembly and the public to conduct the studies. Cochairs, one from each house of the General Assembly, were designated for each committee.

The study of water issues would have been authorized by Section 2.1(2) of the 2nd Edition of House Bill 1319 which passed both chambers but inadvertently was among the bills not ratified at the end of the 1993 Session.

Part II of the 2nd Edition of House Bill 1319 would allow studies authorized by that Part for the Legislative Research Commission to consider Senate Joint Resolution 67 and House Joint Resolution 52 in determining the nature, scope and aspects of the study. The relevant portions of the 2nd Edition of House Bill 1319, Senate Joint Resolution 67, and House Joint Resolution 52 are included in Appendix A. The

Legislative Research Commission authorized this study in the Fall of 1993 under authority of G.S. 120-30.17(1) and grouped this study in its environmental area under the direction of Senator Lura S. Tally. (House Bill 1319 was later amended and ratified in 1994 with the Legislative Research Commission studies 2nd Edition language deleted because the Legislative Research Commission had already acted on these matters).

The Committee was chaired by Senator Lura S. Tally and Representative Aaron E. Fussell. The full membership of the Committee is listed in Appendix B of this report. A committee notebook containing the committee minutes and all information presented to the committee is filed in the Legislative Library.



COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

The Legislative Research Commission's Study Committee on Water Issues met five times during the 1993-94 biennium.

At its first meeting the LRC Study Committee on Water Issues heard reports from the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources on groundwater programs, watershed protection, wetlands, and the proposed rules regarding the regulation and registration of interbasin transfers and the registration of water withdrawals.

At its second meeting the LRC Study Committee on Water Issues considered the following topics and issues: the potential contamination from lead in submersible water pumps, the status of loans and grants requested from the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund made available through the recent clean water bond issue, the effect of pesticides on groundwater as determined by the most recent results of the Interagency Study of the Impact of Pesticide Use on Groundwater in North Carolina, the results and recommendations of the Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study, water issues being considered by the Environmental Management Commission, and an update on the interbasin transfer and water withdrawal registration rules.

At its third meeting the LRC Study Committee on Water Issues focused on the recommendations of the North Carolina Coastal Futures Committee. The Honorable L. Richardson Preyer, Chairman of the North Carolina Coastal Futures Committee, presented an informative overview of that Committee's report and highlighted particularly the recommendations affecting coastal water quality, the Coastal Area Management Act, and environmental education: all of special interest to the members

of the LRC Study Committee on Water Issues. Jonathan B. Howes, Secretary of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources and Steve Levitas, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources also briefly addressed the members of the LRC Study Committee on Water Issues regarding the report of the North Carolina Coastal Futures Committee and then responded to questions from members.

The LRC Study Committee on Water Issues also had an update report on the status of the Virginia Beach pipeline. A draft bill to appropriate funds to provide internships at the Water Resources Institute was handed out to Committee members by Senator Lura Tally for their consideration and discussion at the next meeting.

At its fourth meeting the LRC Study Committee on Water Issues approved draft legislation presented by Senator Tally to the members to appropriate funds to provide internships at the Water Resources Institute and instructed Committee Counsel to include the draft legislation as a recommendation in the Committee's final report to the Legislative Research Commission. The Committee also heard presentations on the following: an update on the status of proposed modifications to the watershed protection rules, reclaimed water use in North Carolina, federally mandated testing requirements for small water supply systems and the cost of those tests, and State primacy for the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

Steve Tedder, Chief of the Water Quality Section of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources informed the Committee that proposed modifications to the watershed protection rules would probably be presented to the Water Quality Subcommittee of the Environmental Management Commission in

December 1994, for discussion and then to the full Environmental Management Commission in February 1995. If all goes as scheduled, public hearings regarding the modification of the rules will be held in April or May 1995. Final approval of any modifications to the rules by the Environmental Management Commission is not expected until July 1995, at the earliest.

Don Safrit, Assistant Chief in the Water Quality Section of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources informed the Committee that the idea of using reclaimed water is to utilize wastewater that is not potable, but that has been treated to a high degree for certain limited uses rather than just disposing of the water. This would conserve the State's drinking water resources. In North Carolina use of reclaimed water is allowed only for the irrigation of golf courses while in other areas of the country it is used for a number of irrigation purposes. Mr. Safrit informed the Committee that over a 20 year period of time, the City of Charlotte has used reclaimed water for golf course irrigation and has saved more than \$50.5 million with this practice.

Andy Romanet, General Counsel for the League of Municipalities and Linda Sewall, Acting Director and Deputy Director of the Environmental Health Division of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources summarized for the Committee the new federally mandated water testing rules issued through the Environmental Protection Agency and the fiscal impact those testing requirements are projected to have on small water supply systems. Small water supply systems are defined as those that have 15 or more connections or that serve at least 25 people for 60 days or more per year.

Mr. Romanet informed the Committee that a task force headed by the League of Municipalities is in the process of researching the scope and nature of the problem caused by the new federal rules and the cost of complying with the rules. The task force is considering various ways to lower the cost of compliance with the federal water testing rules and may recommend legislation at both the federal and State level to reduce testing costs yet maintain safe drinking water for North Carolina's citizens.

Among the various options considered by the task force are the following: publicizing the fact that waivers of future tests are available for small water supply systems whose first test results show no contaminants present in the drinking water supply, reestablishing the State's laboratories to do this type of testing, making composite sampling available, establishing a League of Municipalities member funded testing facility to do testing, and the possibility of using excess capacity currently available in other facilities to do testing on a regional basis.

In addition to the problems faced by small water supply systems, Ms. Sewall also brought to the Committee's attention that the State's primacy with regard to the administration and enforcement of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act is in jeopardy due to the lack of resources available to the State program. Ms. Sewall informed the Committee that failure to increase State resources to the program, particularly with regard to the State's enforcement efforts, may result in the Environmental Protection Agency taking the program back and a loss of flexibility in the administration of the program which is currently available only through State administration. Ms. Sewall indicated that an additional \$5 million is needed to allay the concerns of the Environmental Protection Agency.

At its fifth meeting, the LRC Study Committee on Water Issues considered the draft report to be submitted to the Legislative Research Commission. The Committee amended the report to include a recommendation that the Legislative Research Commission be authorized to continue to study water issues and to include draft legislation to implement that recommendation.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Legislative Research Commission Study Committee on Water Issues makes the following recommendations.

1. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly enact legislation to fund summer internships at the Water Resources Research Institute for students who will assist in identifying and mapping the State's water resources and in designing and preparing a display of those resources that may be used for educational purposes. (See Legislative Proposal set out in Appendix C).

The Committee finds that it is necessary to identify and map the State's water resources to provide both scientific and educational data that will be helpful in learning how to better manage those resources. The Water Resources Research Institute has indicated its willingness to supervise the research and development of such a project but currently lacks the resources needed to accomplish this task. With the additional support provided by student interns the Water Resources Research Institute can oversee the research and development of the proposed project which will serve as an educational aid while also providing a valuable learning experience for those participating in the project development.

2. The Committee recommends that serious consideration be given to the recommendations of the Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study. Those recommendations are included in the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan technical and summary documents and brochure. Copies of the documents and brochure may be obtained from the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study, Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources.

The Committee finds that the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuary, 30,000 square miles of watershed and the second largest estuarine system in the United States, is an irreplaceable resource. It is an estuarine system that supports an array of ecological, economic, recreational, and aesthetic functions which are of regional and national importance. Further the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuary has been designated as an estuary of national significance in the National Estuary Program by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study (APES) is a cooperative effort sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and represents seven years of study and research. The result of the study is the APES Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). The CCMP addresses three main environmental concerns- water quality, vital habitats, and fisheries, and also identifies a need for public involvement and education. Those developing the CCMP solicited public involvement from those who would be affected by the recommendations and made a conscious effort to balance the need for economic growth in Eastern North Carolina with the need to secure the environmental future of the region. The Committee commends APES for its work and acknowledges that while the study did not extend beyond that particular region, many of the initiatives outlined in the plan may be appropriate for use in other parts of the State.

3. The Committee recognizes the financial burden placed on small water supply systems to comply with federally mandated water testing rules and recommends that the General Assembly seriously consider the recommendations of the task force established by the Governor's Office and the League of Municipalities to help reduce

the cost of compliance with federal rules for those small water supply systems. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly give particular consideration to either (i) reestablishing a State laboratory that is equipped to conduct the water sample testing required by federal law and providing a State lab in each of the State's three regions or (ii) regulating private laboratories with regard to the testing required under federal law if no State labs are established. The Committee also recommends that in considering options to reduce costs the General Assembly ensures that the cost reductions are made available to everyone required to test drinking water supplies under the federal law and not just to municipalities.

The Committee finds that the cost to small water supply systems of complying with the new federal rules for testing drinking water supplies is unduly burdensome. Under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act the Environmental Protection Agency is required every three years to add 25 new contaminants to the list of contaminants that are to be tested for in drinking water sources. The 25 new contaminants added most recently by the Environmental Protection Agency include a number of pesticides that are expensive with regard to the testing and monitoring procedures. Federal rules also require that the tests for those pesticides be conducted every quarter. The problem is further complicated by the fact that currently there are only a few labs equipped to conduct the required tests. Most are commercial labs and many are located out-of-state. North Carolina no longer has a lab that can provide these testing services to small water supply systems, and due to the lack of competition, commercial labs in large part can set their own rates for these testing services.

After sorting through quite a lot of information on this issue, the Committee found that because the rules are federally mandated and can not be directly affected by State legislative action, it is necessary to determine what other options may be available at the State level to afford some relief to small water supply systems.

In its study, the Committee learned that the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources has obtained permission from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to establish a State waiver procedure that allows small water supply systems to test once for certain contaminants, and if the sample indicates there is no contamination, provides that the test need be repeated only every three years. This will provide a substantial savings to those small water supply systems. The League of Municipalities is currently publicizing this waiver procedure and is offering assistance to public small water supply systems in applying for waivers under the State program.

In addition to the waiver procedure discussed above, the task force being coordinated by the League of Municipalities is considering a number of other options that may help reduce the costs now borne by small water supply systems. Those options include the following possibilities, although no final recommendations have yet been made: reestablishing a State laboratory which could provide testing services at lower rates than those currently offered by commercial laboratories, using excess capacity that currently exists in some testing facilities to test water samples at lower rates than those currently available and providing those supplemental services on a regional basis, the possibility of the League of Municipalities establishing a member-funded testing facility to do testing, using university facilities to test water samples, using cooperative purchasing testing services to lower costs, and using composite samples.

4. The Committee recommends that additional study and serious consideration be given to the possibility of reclaiming wastewater and using that reclaimed water as appropriate for applications that do not require drinking water supplies.

The Committee finds that while North Carolina currently has a sufficient water supply, the demand for water use continues to rise and the State should begin to develop a proactive, comprehensive water supply plan that incorporates water reclamation and reuse. Reclaimed water, for purposes of committee discussion, was defined as municipal wastewater that is recovered and chemically treated to a safety level just below that for drinking water for use in applications other than human consumption.

The Committee learned that the following states use reclaimed water, although to different degrees: California, Florida, Texas, Georgia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and South Carolina. Reuse applications allowed in other states are as follows: landscape irrigation (golf courses, office parks), industrial processes (evaporative cooling, process waters), toilet flushing, fire protection and dust control, agricultural irrigation, and environmental regeneration (wetlands and groundwater recharge).

The Committee was also very interested to learn that reclaimed water is used to some extent in North Carolina to irrigate golf courses, sometimes at a savings, and directed that the following example taken from the handout entitled "Reclaimed Water Use in North Carolina" be cited in this report:

"For example, the use of reclaimed water for the irrigation of golf courses and landscaping in the City of Charlotte's multi-use Ballantyne development is expected to yield approximately \$0.48 per 1,000 gallons in avoided debt service (Boyle Engineering, 1994). Over the next twenty years, this equates into a savings of more than \$50.5 million. Naturally, the size and nature of potential savings available through reclamation will vary with the size and character of individual reuse projects."

5. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly seriously consider the recommendations of the North Carolina Coastal Futures Committee as

discussed in the report entitled, "Charting a Course for Our Coast". The Committee particularly urges the General Assembly to consider those recommendations regarding coastal water quality and environmental education.

The Committee agrees with the North Carolina Coastal Committee that the recent and projected growth and increase in population in the State's coastal counties present one of the greatest challenges facing the Coast and the State. As noted in the report, "Charting a Course for Our Coast," by the year 2000 most coastal counties will see growth rates of at least 20 percent. Craven and Carteret Counties expect an additional population boom from the expansion of the Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station, while the City of Kinston and surrounding areas expect population gains as a result of the establishment of the Global TransPark.

The Committee also notes with interest the following comment from "Charting a Course for Our Coast:"

"Studies also reveal that nearly a third of the state's rivers and streams are impaired by pollution.... Meanwhile, North Carolina ranks 47th among the 50 states in spending on water quality and water quality programs and 43rd in per capita spending on all environmental programs, according to the Green Index, a ranking of states' environmental programs."

The Committee finds that the North Carolina Coastal Futures Committee has made a conscientious effort to document State environmental concerns in the coastal area, to involve both those with the expertise to identify and document problems and those whose lives and livelihoods are affected by the problems and potential solutions, and to balance environmental concerns with economic realities. The Committee finds that the report, "Charting a Course for Our Coast," and the recommendations in that report deserve thoughtful and serious consideration.

6. The Committee recommends that the Legislative Research Commission continue its study of water issues and that the Water Issues Legislative Study Committee be reestablished for the 1995-96 biennium.

The Committee finds that the State's water resources are invaluable and that it is important that the General Assembly have a committee that focuses specifically on water issues to ensure the protection of that resource.

APPENDIX A

HOUSE BILL 1319, 2ND EDITION

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE STUDIES BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION, TO CREATE AND CONTINUE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS, AND TO DIRECT VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES TO STUDY SPECIFIED ISSUES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I.-----TITLE

Section 1. This act shall be known as "The Studies Act of 1993".

PART II.-----LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION

Sec. 2.1. The Legislative Research Commission may study the topics listed below. Listed with each topic is the 1993 bill or resolution that originally proposed the issue or study and the name of the sponsor. The Commission may consider the original bill or resolution in determining the nature, scope, and aspects of the study. The topics are:

- (1) Education Support Services (H.B. 11 - Fussell, S.B. 13 - Martin of Guilford),
- (2) Water Issues-Surface Water and Groundwater -- study continued (H.J.R. 52 - Fussell, S.J.R. 67 - Tally),

....

Sec. 2.2. Committee Membership. For each Legislative Research Commission Committee created during the 1993-94 biennium, the cochairs of the Commission shall appoint the Committee membership.

Sec. 2.3. Reporting Dates. For each of the topics the Legislative Research Commission decides to study under this act or pursuant to G.S. 120-30.17(1), the Commission may report its findings, together with any recommended legislation, to the 1994 Regular Session of the 1993 General Assembly or the 1995 General Assembly, or both.

Sec. 2.4. Bills and Resolution References. The listing of the original bill or resolution in this Part is for reference purposes only and shall not be deemed to have incorporated by reference any of the substantive provisions contained in the original bill or resolution.

Sec. 2.5. Funding. From the funds available to the General Assembly, the Legislative Services Commission may allocate additional monies to fund the work of the Legislative Research Commission.

....

PART XI.-----APPROPRIATION FOR STUDIES

Sec. 11.1. From the appropriations to the General Assembly for studies, the Legislative Services Commission may allocate funds to conduct the studies authorized by this act.

PART XII.-----EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 12.1. This act is effective upon ratification. Part VI of this act is repealed on June 30, 1995.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

S

1

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 67*

Sponsors: Senators Tally; Sherron, Odom, Carpenter, Cochrane, and Seymour.

Referred to: Rules and Operation of the Senate.

February 4, 1993

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
2 COMMISSION TO STUDY WATER ISSUES.

3 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

4 Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission may study issues
5 relating to surface water and groundwater, including the following: regional
6 management of the State's water resources; watershed protection; the effect on the
7 State's water resources of pollution caused by package treatment plants, hog farms,
8 pesticides, sedimentation, stormwater runoff, and land application of petroleum
9 products; the need for a statewide groundwater program; and the State Water Supply
10 Plan. The Commission may further study any other issues relevant to the State's
11 water resources.

12 Sec. 2. The Legislative Research Commission may make its
13 recommendations and submit an interim report to the 1993 General Assembly,
14 Regular Session 1994, and may make a final report to the 1995 General Assembly.

15 Sec. 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 1993

H

1

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 52*

Sponsors: Representative Fussell.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

February 4, 1993

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
2 COMMISSION TO STUDY WATER ISSUES.

3 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

4 Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission may study issues
5 relating to surface water and groundwater, including the following: regional
6 management of the State's water resources; watershed protection; the effect on the
7 State's water resources of pollution caused by package treatment plants, hog farms,
8 pesticides, sedimentation, stormwater runoff, and land application of petroleum
9 products; the need for a statewide groundwater program; and the State Water Supply
10 Plan. The Commission may further study any other issues relevant to the State's
11 water resources.

12 Sec. 2. The Legislative Research Commission may make its
13 recommendations and submit an interim report to the 1993 General Assembly,
14 Regular Session 1994, and may make a final report to the 1995 General Assembly.

15 Sec. 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.

APPENDIX B

MEMBERSHIP OF LRC COMMITTEE ON WATER ISSUES

LRC MEMBER: Sen. Lura S. Tally
3100 Tallywood Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28303
(910)483-4175

President Pro Tempore Appointments

Sen. Lura S. Tally, Co-Chair
3100 Tallywood Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28303
(910)483-4175

Sen. Charles W. Albertson
136 Henry Dunn Pickett Road
Beulaville, NC 28518
(910)298-4223

Mr. Jerry Kelly
111 Hunter's Trail West
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

Sen. T. LaFontine Odom
1100 S. Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28203
(704)372-4800

Sen. Robert G. Shaw
P.O. Box 8101
Greensboro, NC 27419
(910)855-7533

Mr. Melvin Shepherd
140 Charles Creek Road
P.O. Box 15
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460

Mr. David Springer
Rt. 4, Box 579
Mocksville, NC 27028

Staff:

Ms. Emily Johnson

Speaker's Appointments

Rep. Aaron E. Fussell, Co-Chair
1201 Briar Patch Lane
Raleigh, NC 27615
(919)876-0240

Rep. David G. Balmer
P.O. Box 12391
Charlotte, NC 28220
(704)543-1990

Rep. Karen E. Gottovi
116 Martingale Lane
Wilmington, NC 28409
(910)350-0190

Rep. William M. Ives
P.O. Box 829
Brevard, NC 28712
(704)884-4458

Rep. Vernon G. James
1301 Salem Church Road
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
(919)330-4394

Rep. Theodore J. Kinney
106 Chloe Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28301
(910)488-5681

Rep. Alex Warner
3610 Frierson Street
Hope Mills, NC 28348
(910)424-0030

Clerk:

Ms. Sarah Murphy

Bill Drafting Division
(919)733-6660

Rm. 2010 Legislative Building
(919)715-0853

Ms. Sherri Evans-Stanton
Research Division
(919)733-2578

APPENDIX C

EXPLANATION OF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL I: A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA TO PROVIDE SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AT THE WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

The legislative proposal appropriates twenty-five thousand dollars to provide summer internships at the Water Resources Research Institute. Students who receive the internships are to help identify and map North Carolina's water resources and help design and prepare a display of the State's water resources that may be used for educational purposes.

The legislative proposal is effective July 1, 1995.

APPENDIX C

Legislative Proposal

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

S/H

D

95-LH-001

(THIS IS A DRAFT AND NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)

Short Title: Water Resources Internship Funds. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR THE
3 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA TO PROVIDE SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AT
4 THE WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE.
5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
6 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund
7 to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina the
8 sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the 1995-96
9 fiscal year to provide summer internships at the Water Resources
10 Research Institute.
11 Sec. 2. Funds appropriated by this act shall be
12 administered by the Water Resources Research Institute and shall
13 be used as grants to students for summer internships at the Water
14 Resources Research Institute. Students receiving the internships
15 shall assist in identifying and mapping the State's water
16 resources and in designing and preparing a display of the State's
17 water resources that may be used for educational purposes.
18 Sec. 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 1995.

APPENDIX D

EXPLANATION OF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL II: A JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION TO STUDY WATER ISSUES.

The legislative proposal authorizes the Legislative Research Commission to study surface and ground water issues. The legislative proposal identifies a number of specific issues for study and authorizes study of any other issues relevant to the State's water resources.

The legislative proposal provides that the Legislative Research Commission may make its recommendations and submit an interim report to the 1995 General Assembly, Regular Session 1996, and may make a final report to the 1997 General Assembly.

Legislative Proposal II

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

S/H

D

SENATE/HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 95-LH-022
(THIS IS A DRAFT AND NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
2 COMMISSION TO STUDY WATER ISSUES.

3 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives
4 concurring:

5 Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission may
6 study issues relating to surface water and groundwater including
7 the following: watershed protection, federal and State testing
8 and monitoring requirements for drinking water supplies, and the
9 possibility of reclaiming wastewater and using that reclaimed
10 water as appropriate for applications that do not require
11 drinking water supplies. The Commission may further study any
12 other issues relevant to the State's water resources.

13 Sec. 2. The Legislative Research Commission may make
14 its recommendations and submit an interim report to the 1995
15 General Assembly, Regular Session 1996, and may make a final
16 report to the 1997 General Assembly.

17 Sec. 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.